international development of mutual concerns and counter-terrorism.

(c) In accordance with the presidential waiver authority provided by the Defence Appropriations Act, 2000, passed by the US Congress in October 1999, the US has lifted unilateral restrictions against India, except for the restrictions relating to lending by International Financial Institutions for non-humanitarian purposes and on exports of defence and dual use products and technologies. The US has not indicated the time frame for lifting of the remaining restrictions.

(d) No, Sir. Both sides, however, recognise that the Indians living in the United States are making a vital contribution to the American society and to strengthening of Indo-US relations, and that these ties of kinship between the two countries should be nurtured. Government remains committed to safeguarding the welfare of Indians living abroad, including in the United States, and accords high importance to this objective in its bilateral relations with host countries.

**Discussion on sanctions imposed by United States**

2951. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA :

SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many Indian concerns continue to be on the sanctions black list imposed by US after Pokhran tests;

(b) if so, whether the matter was taken up with the US President and other senior officials during the recent visit to India; and

(c) if so, what was the outcome of the discussions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. As part of the unilateral restrictions imposed against India following the nuclear tests of May 1998, the US published in November 1998 the so-called Entities List of over 200 Indian organisations, companies and research institutions that were subjected to enhanced restrictions. With effect from March 2000, 51 organisations have been taken off the Entities List.

(b) Government has used every opportunity to convey to the US, including during the visit of President Clinton, that all unilateral restrictions against India are unjustified and counter-productive and should be completely lifted.

(c) The US has lifted a number of unilateral restrictions imposed on India after the nuclear tests of May 1998. The US side has not indicated the time-frame for lifting the remaining restrictions.

**Clinton's Visit to Pakistan**

2952. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Press report that various officials in Islamabad have claimed that President Clinton's visit to Pakistan imparted legitimacy to the army take over and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) if so, whether it was also claimed that the visit denoted US support for the Pakistani view on Kashmir;

(c) whether it has also been claimed that his visit would facilitate a durable settlement of the Kashmir dispute based on the wishes of the Kashmiri people; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (d) In his address to the people of Pakistan from Islamabad on March 25, 2000, President Clinton, *inter alia*, called for the restoration of civilian democratic governance in Pakistan and respect for the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir. He also denounced terrorism. Some Pakistani leaders, for their own purposes, have sought to give a slanted projection to President Clinton's straightforward message to the Government and people of Pakistan.

India seeks to establish trust and confidence with Pakistan, put in place a stable structure of cooperation and address all outstanding issues as envisaged in the Simla Agreement. Pakistan must cease its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism and vicious propaganda against India. There is no place for any third party involvement in India-Pakistan relations.

**Use of Foreign Territories by North-East Militant Groups**

2953. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the steps taken by Government to prevent the use of territories of Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand by the ULFA, NSCN and other insurgents and militants of North-East; and